

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	NKA Explanation Group's Attitude toward UN Explanation Program	DATE DISTR.	12 November 1954	
		NO. OF PAGES	2	
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 25X1
1. In September 1953 Lieutenant Colonel KIM Man-sok (6855/5502/4258) of the North Korean Army (NKA) arrived at the prisoner-of-war camp at Songgok-ni (N 37-56, E 126-39) (BT943026).¹ His mission was to disrupt the explanation program of the United Nations forces. KIM assumed the guise of the chief doctor of the prison hospital, and in this position he was able to confer with anti-American prisoners disguised as patients.
 2. In October when explanations to prisoners were begun, Lieutenant General YI Sang-cho (2621/4161/2600), Chief of the North Korean Army Military Armistice Commission, ordered the chiefs of the 32 groups within the North Korean Army Explanation Group² to carry a pistol secretly in violation of the treaty; and to watch United Nations personnel intently. If any member of the United Nations forces indicated a preference for the Communist side, he was to be taken north in a jeep.
 3. During the explanations nine secret police of the North Korean Ministry of Internal Affairs were disguised as drivers and attached to the explanation program. These men were instructed to kidnap United Nations personnel whenever possible. They were unable to carry out this mission because United Nations personnel remained in groups at all times.
 4. In January 1954 when prisoners of war were being returned to their respective sides, ten members of the North Korean Army Explanation Group disguised themselves as members of the Red Cross and accepted the turnover of prisoners at the Songgok-ni camp.
 5. On 20 January CH'IAO (0829) (fnu), a Chinese who was the Supreme Commissioner of Armistice and Prisoner of War Repatriations, instructed General YI Sang-cho

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

- 2 -

to send two regiments of the 8 Division, NKA I Corps, to the demilitarized zone 300 to 400 meters northwest of Tongjang-ni (N 37-54, E 126-41)(BS 9697) prisoner-of-war camp. For three days prior to the exchange on 21 January, CH'IAO broadcast an invitation from KIM Il-song and PENG Te-huai to repatriating anti-Communist prisoners of war to escape to the north. The two regiments were to assist any prisoners who wished to escape, but none responded to the broadcast.

Comments

25X1

1. Although this place is not listed in the Army Map Service (AMS) gazetteer to maps of Korea, the grid references and coordinates given place it in a logical location in reference to the events described in the report.

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL